

# THE HICKMAN COURIER.

— PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY BY —  
**GEORGE WARREN**  
 HICKMAN, KENTUCKY.

Office—Hickman Building, Clinton Street.  
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George Warren, Editor.  
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 FRIDAY, MAY 9, 1879.

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# THE HICKMAN COURIER.

ESTABLISHED 1859.

HICKMAN, FULTON COUNTY, KENTUCKY, FRIDAY, MAY 9, 1879.

VOL. XIV. NO. 34.

## THE Nihilists.

Russia is adopting the most stringent measures with a view to crushing out the Nihilists. In this morning's news it is stated that from 5,000 to 10,000 suspected persons will be sent in chains to the North-east—which means, we suppose, Siberia; and that a Governor General has been appointed for certain populous districts "with perfectly despotic powers."

If accounts are reliable the organization bearing this name is a most formidable one. It dates as far back as 1825. In its details it much resembles the Know Nothing organization which flourished in this country twenty-three years ago. Indeed the word *nihil* signifies nothing. Its purposes may, in brief, be described as communitarian. Opposition to the existing family is a leading feature. Its ramifications extend throughout the Empire. Its adherents embrace all classes—rich and entitled, rich and poor, male and female—and are to be found in the army, in the police, in the lower schools and colleges, and not only in the imperial household.

It appears in this morning's news that the man who lately attempted to assassinate the Czar is the son of a groom in the employ of the Grand Duchess Catherine.

Of the Nihilists women are especially zealous. Highborn young ladies have been known to leave home and go out to service for the purpose of inculcating the principles of democracy. Within a few years the public may have noticed an account of the arrest at St. Petersburg of Miss de Maefel, daughter of a rich Russian. She is now in chains in the citadel of Kiev, where also are confined the Countess Paula and daughter of Gen. Grestfeldt, all charged with Nihilism.

Such an organization necessarily conducts its business with the utmost secrecy. Every possible care is taken to prevent the disclosure of its purposes. It is divided into small sections, and for the accomplishment of any special object these are subdivided, and the business in hand confided to five or six members, so that in case of detection by the authorities no more than those actually concerned may be arrested.

Not only the strength of the organization has been exaggerated, but with its secret movements, its relentless purposes, and its wide spread ramifications one may readily believe that its late manifestations have thoroughly alarmed the government at St. Petersburg.

## Turners Take a Turn.

There was a scene in the House last week growing out of two personal explanations which were made by Oscar Turner and Thomas Turner, both of Kentucky. It appears that in discussing the terms attending the recent speech of Mr. Barroughs, of Michigan, a correspondent of a St. Louis paper telegraphed that the very air on the Democratic side was filled with all phrases which the two Turners were in the habit of using. He said, and shaking his fist at Barroughs, said, "You are a damned liar." A correspondent made no distinction in the way of identifying which Turner he meant. It was not known to Kentucky who was the aggressor on the occasion. The enemies of Mr. Oscar Turner flooded his district with the paper containing the sketch. Mr. Turner disclaimed for himself using any such language. Then Thomas Turner also made a denial. He said that the purpose of some correspondents seemed to be to do nothing but flaunt and did it with such assiduity that he sometimes thought their salary was scaled in accordance with their mendacity. He stated quite positively that he had never used a previous charge made against him in a New York paper, saying that he was drunk on the floor. "No man," said he, "ever saw me drunk in my life, and on the day I was charged with being drunk I had not had a drop of liquor for three days." He closed by urging the correspondents that if they continued their provocations they might be denied the privilege of the reporters' gallery. [Wash. Correspondent.]

## THE NOOK.

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## A Kentucky State Bank.

A Measure for Relieving the People.

It is, perhaps, no exaggerated estimate to say that one-half or three-fourths of the real estate owners in the State of Kentucky, are embarrassed to a greater or less extent, by heavy interest bearing debts, and that their condition appeals earnestly for any kind of reasonable and honest measures for relief. The land owners thus involved are the best men in the State, and their condition, in many instances, has been brought about by conditions and causes beyond their control as individuals. In other words, the shrinkage in values and general depreciation incident to the country dropping from war inflation prices down to solid gold values, has left them buffeted with losses and prospective bankruptcy.

The true theory—the best theory—the first theory—in such conditions is for the citizen, embarrassed by debt, to look to himself for relief—to his own industry, economy, and management. But, the popular idea of the day is for the Government, by some political economy, to relieve the people of debt. Hence, the politicians, from time to time, jump up temporary "stay laws," etc., to give relief; but stay laws only delay, and do not relieve.

There is no measure which can be endorsed as an unflinching panacea to a debt-burdened citizen, but we believe that a

**WELL REGULATED STATE BANK,** thoroughly guarded and restricted, could be made the means of immense relief to the people of Kentucky. Of course such an institution should be so thoroughly restricted by business rules as to make the State, at all times, and under all circumstances, safe; and this being thoroughly secured, let the grand object be directed to the relief of the land owners of the State of Kentucky.

The Government of the United States issues millions of

**YOUR PER CENT PAPER,** which is not only taken at par, but is in great demand by money men, in preference to all other kind of fastest money; and, if this is true, why might not the State of Kentucky issue a proportionately less amount, which would be in demand at 4 per cent? If placed upon as good, safe, and certain a financial basis as now characterizes the management of national finances, there is nothing to prevent a certain volume of State paper from being in as much demand at 4 per cent, as national paper now is; and, if based upon a well guarded idea of giving preference accommodation to Kentucky land owners at 4 per cent, in deferred installments, it certainly would give immeasurable relief to our people by cutting down the interest rates and giving them breathing space to adjust their fortunes to depreciated values.

We are not now discussing objections in the State constitution, nor existing national discriminations against State banks; nor the unworldly slaves to which such a plan could be made subject; but to the idea, assuming that objections can be removed, and slaves guarded against. Above all things, let the country never again in its history tolerate any kind of

**WILD CAT BANKS,** which can only bring ruin and desolation to the people. The distressed financial condition of our people demands relief, if it can be extended safely, honestly, and upon reasonable terms. We see no good reason why State banks could not be organized now on sound, safe, and sure basis, precisely as many States did before the war, and the money issued always be maintained as good. Let no money shark ridicule the idea as a "mob bank," owned and controlled by a mob, and when the mob has enriched themselves they will leave the State ruined; and let no citizen imagine that the COURIER contemplates a State banking machine to be driven up to every man's door to grind out State money enough to pay each individual's debts, for the COURIER advances no such ideas; but we do mean a State bank, established on a safe and practical basis, issuing a volume of paper at 4 per cent, capable of affording great relief to the people.

The people are at fault that they do not force candidates for the State Legislature to define positions on such questions. The people should meet in neighborhood, counties, and districts, and put forward plans of relief, and candidates capable of digesting and executing such plans. The plain, practical sense men of the State need to hold such efforts of relief down to plain, practical sense rules, and not let demagogues engineer such movements into useless, visionary schemes.

HON. T. F. HARRIS has been nominated as the successor of Judge Elliott. The election will take place the 12th of May.

The Western emigration agents continue to run off negroes from the South to perish in the West. There is a deep despond in it all, in which the negro is to be sacrificed for the benefit of the Republican party and to gratify a malignant feeling towards the South.

## THE PENITENTIARY.

What's to be Done? Enlarge, Branch or Change?

Our State exchanges are repeatedly referring to the crowded condition of the State penitentiary, and it is a foregone conclusion that our next Legislature will have to make some disposition of the penitentiary matter. It appears that our Legislature, for some years past, have been putting it off, until it can be put off no longer.

Humanity forbids the crowding of two or three prisoners into one narrow little cell, unless the taking of life be the object of such punishment; but, while it is clear to see that humanity forbids, it is not so clear as to whether humanity and good government recommend the usual idea and custom in such emergencies is to enlarge existing buildings, or build new branches in other parts of the State, the plan of humanity being answered when the sanitary conditions are complied with and little thought is given to the fact that the honest industry of the people is being taxed to support the thieves and criminals confined in the penitentiary. This latter phase of the question deserves consideration.

If the order of things could be reversed, and the convicted criminals of the State made to help support the honest citizens, it would be good.

Penitentiaries in other States are conducted so as to pay the State an annual revenue, and why may not the Kentucky penitentiary be so conducted? There is no good reason why it should not be made to pay precisely as in Tennessee. In Tennessee the prisoners are hired out to work in mines, on railroads, and for any and all purposes where their labor will pay. In Kentucky, under some kind of a false humanitarian idea, they are crowded in cells and made to work at trades, under great disadvantages, and the State meets the deficit.

A thief steals \$100 from a hard working citizen, and the State tries him for the offense, and, for punishment, sentences him to two years in the penitentiary. The result is the State gets revenue on the unfortunate wretch and boards, clothes, and cares for him two years at her own expense, and the "hard working citizen," from whom the \$100 was stolen, is still minus his money. The plain dictates of justice say that the culprit should be hired at labor until his wages pay the \$100 he stole, with interest, and also every expense incurred by the State. In cases where this doctrine of restitution was impossible, the law could interpose. Our remedy then is: put the penitentiary on a paying basis, precisely a similar system to that now practiced in Tennessee. Work the convicts in mines, on railroads, on public roads, anywhere where their labor is in demand.

## THE VETO.

The Government Supplies Stopped.

The two Houses of Congress passed the bill making the necessary appropriations to supply the army for the year commencing June 30, 1879, but President Hayes vetoed the bill, and so, after June 30, the army will be without pay or supplies, unless some accommodation is reached or some compromise effected.

Divested of extraneous questions the issues before the country are—

1. Shall Federal soldiers be stationed at the polls?

2. Shall Federal supervisors be allowed to interfere in popular elections?

Republicans say, Yes. Democrats say, No.

The Democrats have the right and sole power to provide or refuse the money necessary to the running of the Government in any, each and all its departments; and the Republicans, through their President, have the right to veto any and all such bills, which can only be passed by a two third vote over the veto of the President, and the Democrats have not this necessary two thirds majority.

So the United States Government is at a dead lock and can't stir a wheel until the 30th of next June.

The Democrats are clearly right in their position—they demand the unconditional repeal of the law authorizing the use of the army at elections, and refuse to vote any supplies unless such repeal is consented to by the President.

Our Government never in its history, until the late civil war, demanded for the President the right to use the army in Federal elections, and during all that anti-war period our elections were pure and fair; and hence we may assume they will be so in the future if the army is forbidden to interfere. On the contrary the Republicans assume that the use of the army at the polls is of importance to the protection of voters and to insure a fair election.

The situation is serious; but, some terms will no doubt be arranged.

HON. OSCAR TURNER keeps himself busy at Washington looking after the interests of his constituents. We find in the Congressional proceedings of the 22d ult., the following:

"Mr. Oscar Turner introduced a bill (H. R. No. 500) to provide for the construction of a public building at the city of Paducah, State of Kentucky, which was read a first and second time, referred to the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, and ordered to be printed."

## BE G. M. V.

South Kentucky Representative on the Committee.

The important question to this immediate action, in national politics, is the improvement of the great Mississippi Valley, and, at length, Southern Kentucky is represented in this important matter by the appointment of Hon. Oscar Turner, our member of Congress, to the committee of Mississippi Valley, &c. We regard this as an important recognition of our interests, and are vain enough to feel that the persistent efforts of the Committee, in a humble way, trying to build up a public feeling in this District to stimulate exertion of our immediate Representative, is not altogether without effect. Mr. Turner is a man of completed abilities, and, by his place on this committee, has the opportunity never before of a previous member from this District to be of substantial and material service to this immediate section. We believe Col. Turner will prove equal to the great interests involved, and that he will play his trump card on this question.

During the last Congressional race the County begged the district press and the people to demand that the candidates for Congress define their position on the question of improving the Mississippi river, and make it the question of the race. We again beg the district press to give expression to this popular feeling that our member of Congress may be encouraged to work vigorously.

The Mississippi Valley is destined to be the breadbasket of the world, and will assume its position when it is redeemed from overflow, its lands occupied by farming industry, its forests cleared, and its material atmosphere purified by the sunlight of this great work. The majority sentiment of the entire country, North as well as South, demands the necessary appropriations by the present Congress.

## About the Jury System.

This is one of the advanced political ideas of the day that the *Charter* does not endorse. We all see so many silly things, so many foolish things, so many imprudent things, done by juries, that we are apt to cry out "down with the jury." Man full of such talk thoughtlessly, and really don't mean what they say.

If a Kentucky farmer would refresh his mind as to the struggles of his fellowmen in this section, writing from arbitrary hands, this great right, and after himself to meditate upon the oppression, from which it was a deliverance, he would say "down with the jury." If one people were deprived of the right of the trial by jury for a few years, it would be a great blessing to our people. We are used to juries—they are common and like any other blessings not fully appreciated because we are so familiar with them. It may be that the qualification of jurors should be more exacting and a higher standard, but the system is one of the glories of a free country.

## One of the Issues.

One of the issues, making up the mass of the "dead lock" in the machinery of government just now, is upon the appeal of what is known as the test oath. This test oath requires of a citizen before he can be employed as a competent juror in a United States court to subscribe to an oath that he neither sympathized with, or participated in the late civil war, on the Confederate side. In these courts the Southern people are generally arrayed and for political offenses or charges, and they complain that only those who are their political enemies can sit as jurors, and hence that they do not have fair trials.

This issue seems about settled in favor of the Democrats, by the Supreme Court of the United States, in a decision rendered last week, in a case which came up from Florida. A man called a juror was put upon his oath to say whether or not he participated in the rebellion. He declined to answer, and the court sustained him. The case was appealed to the Supreme Court, and in the decision it says:

"Whether pardoned by a general amnesty or not, the crime was one which, in the opinion of this Court, he could not be required to disclose in this manner. He was merely a juror, and his only duty was to give the law as he understood it. As he did not offer to do this, and as the juror's incompetency was not proven, the Court was not bound to exclude him."

Justice Field said he would go further. "In my judgment the act is not only oppressive and abusive, and repugnant to the spirit of our institutions, but is clearly unconstitutional and void."

The Post and News demands that the Louisville delegation in the Legislature shall be so constituted:

"Against the free system, against the penitentiary, and all lotteries, and against the plan for improving the Kentucky river, and for elevating our common school system."

The sanitary association of citizens of New Orleans are having the city streets covered two feet deep with lime, and Gov. Nichols has issued a proclamation establishing quarantine from and after May 1st against West India, South American and Central American ports.

## Transferring Negroes to the West.

Is it a Good or Bad Move.

The negro emigration movement from the Southern States, began the 1st of March. When 280 negroes boarded the steamer *Fort of Memphis* for St. Louis. Since that time 2,700 negroes have left the States of Louisiana and Mississippi for Kansas.

This movement was and is clearly a political movement, originated to make capital for the Republican party in the Presidential campaign of next year; but, since the move has been inaugurated, might it not be well for the southern people to consider the situation philosophically as to whether or not such emigration is not mutually advantageous both to the whites and blacks.

The ceaseless disturbances which have existed in the extreme Southern States between the whites and blacks, fomented by political enemies, discredits the prosperity of those States as well as of the whole country, and if the black men of the south voluntarily scatter over the North and West, the incentive to these disturbances will to that extent be removed, and their actual, practical experience in the other sections bring to the negro the realization of the fact that he is being treated as well in the South as in the North or West.

The Southern people desire and need the strong arm of the colored men on their farms and in the various industries, and ninety percent of the colored people will find after actual experience that the Southern life and Southern customs to which they have been born, is more congenial to their taste and nature; and we say further that 90 per cent of the colored people will stay in the South. We say this movement now in progress is a political machine, not designed to benefit the colored man, but to make capital for the Republican party. The Republican idea is to make it appear that the negro is being treated so badly in the south that he is compelled to fly to the West to escape this brutal oppression; and the still further and stronger point to rush the exodus excitement to the end of cutting the number of Congressmen down by the 1880 census, and by this tactics secure a Republican Congress for the next two years.

Senator Voorhees has offered a resolution in the United States Senate, proposing to investigate the secret causes of this sudden negro exodus excitement, that should be pushed and doubled will be. The correspondents of newspapers have investigated so far as to show clearly that it is the work of politicians, as the following circular, which is only one among many, will show:

"[Strictly Private.]

"ATTENTION, COLORED MEN!"

"Organ of Colored Emigration Society, Texas, Ky., Feb. 2, 1879.—Your brethren and friends throughout the North have observed with painful solicitude the outrages heaped upon you by your rebel masters, and are doing all they can to alleviate your sufferings and provide for your future happiness and prosperity. President Hayes, by his Imperial Southern policy, has deserted you while the Democrats, who have long controlled Congress, will seek to re-organize the Government to provide land for each head of a family, which will be given, in halves of one hundred acres, gratuitously. This land is located in the best portion of Kansas, in close proximity to Topeka, and is very productive. Here there is no discrimination in wages, all are on an equal footing, and the land of oppression and crime is free Kansas."

"Lynchings, lynchings, lynchings! show the circle to come but colored men, and clear its contents!"

"That is truly Republican—document, and worthy of the political adventurers who drew it. It is endorsed by the leading Republican statesmen, who, it seems, do not hesitate to approve the most infamous deceptions."

The movement is of course for the purpose of diminishing the population of the South during next year, and there by lessen the number of Congressmen from the Southern States, and in this view it may be successful, unless it explodes, and the colored people find out the "sell" in time to return home, or not to start. Of the 2,700 emigrants, 2,300 had their way paid by a political club and have been left in a strange country moneyless and helpless. In a material view, the places of the colored men will be rapidly filled up by white laborers from the neighboring North. Of course the Northern politicians know this, but what does he care to that the "political trick" succeeds.

But, as a matter of fact, these colored people who are dissatisfied with the Southern people, and who, from the continued freshenings of the politicians, think themselves terribly mistreated—who think the North a paradise and the South a hell—ought to try this immigration business. In our judgment it will end in a good and satisfactory result. Those of them who will find the South—the home of their birth—their best home. Some of them will succeed in the North and some will fail, precisely as in the South; but the great lesson will be that, in all, they are treated better in the South than anywhere else.

Mr. John A. Mayes has withdrawn from the race for Legislature in Graves county.

## The Veto Message.

In the first place the President says there is no objection to the Appropriation Bill itself, and no objection would have been offered if extraneous matter had not been attached.

Second, the sixth section, regarding the law allowing troops to keep the peace at the polls, is already the law of the land—that is troops are prevented from going to the polls what is called the *passo cantata* law, passed by the last Congress. Since the passage of that law no troops have been allowed near the polls at any election, and will not be as long as the present Executive occupies his office, or the law remains on the statute books. There is no disposition on his part to violate that law or to allow the obligation. Therefore, with that law in force and undisturbed, it is unnecessary to attach to the present bill any other containing virtual, and some provisions, and still less excuse for attaching it to an appropriation bill.

The President goes on to say that when the past Congress passed the bill, it was admitted by its opponents that it settled the question of the troops at the polls, and since then the law has been vigorously enforced, and would continue to be. There is, therefore, no need of further legislation on this subject.

The President next considers the clause which prevents civil officers of the Government from quelling riots or minor disturbances at the polls. He says an election happens to be in progress, the President thinks it no reason why rioters should be allowed unchecked sway over the lives and property of citizens. From this proposition he thoroughly discounts, and shows that we must use the civil power of the Government to protect elections.

He next considers and objects to the bad practice of attaching extraneous matter to appropriation bills. He examines historical precedents a length, and shows that for the first forty years of the history of the Government the practice of attaching extraneous legislation to appropriation bills was unknown. It continues the President, is a bad practice, acknowledged to be so by the best minds of all parties, at one time or another, and should be stopped, and, in the opinion of the Executive, this is a good place to stop.

He next considers the election laws and passes his judgment upon them in connection with the civil authority to keep the peace. He thinks them whole and just, and promoting the purity of the ballot, and that they should remain on the statute books. These laws should neither be repealed nor should the power to enforce them be taken away. The former will be about July 1, and the latter next fall.

He then considers the question as to contrivance to coerce the Executive, and enters his protest against the method of coercion. He thinks that it is the duty of one Government to respect the rights of another branch in this manner. It virtually strikes out and nullifies the veto power given by the Constitution. It allows to be carried out by one Government for the purpose of coercing another branch in this manner. It virtually strikes out and nullifies the veto power given by the Constitution. It allows to be carried out by one Government for the purpose of coercing another branch in this manner.

He next considers the points of business involved. The money in the Treasury was placed there by tax payers for a purpose. That purpose was to support the Government, and no department of the Government has the right to step in and divert it from the uses for which it was paid in.

He shows that in twenty-two States of the Union this method of attaching legislation to appropriation bills is prohibited in their Constitutions.

He closes by urging that we return to the early practice of the Government, which for forty years got along certainly as well as since, and with no attempt in that time to coerce the Executive by attaching extraneous legislation to an appropriation bill.

## Protection to the Negro.

Windows bill to better provide for the protection of the negroes from the influence and control of the white man can only be accomplished by colonizing them on some Southern territory. This is shown by the leading colored men who have recently had an interview and free conference with Senator Windom on the subject of his bill.

To carry out the sublime and benevolent vision of the Senator, where is the territory to be procured in the United States to form this colored colony? When this realized, under what law and institutions prescribed by Congress, or of their own creation? Are they capable of self government? If not, they must be under the care of the general government, and under the guardianship of the Government they would prove a greater trouble, expense, nuisance and care than the wild Indians of the West.

What a wide and beautiful field would such a government and such an opportunity afford to carpet baggers, thieves and robbers to ply upon the negro, until he was reduced to starvation, anarchy, misrule and ruin! Did they not try it, or the South after the war, until they impoverished both the whites and blacks? And since they were driven out by the establishment of good government in the Southern States a continual howl has been kept up by hungry whites driven from a mutilated carcass.

If the Government at Washington cannot control a few thousand Indians, except at an expense of millions of dollars annually, with bloodshed and destruction of property, how can they, in the benefit of other parts, take the guardianship of 5,000,000 of these colored people?